the Link

Volume 7, Number 36
Tuesday, March 17, 1987

Concordia University
Montreal, Quebec

MUC tax hike to raise student rents

by Susan Quevillon and Leanne Murray

Montreal students can expect their rents to increase soon as a result of city hall's recent property tax hike.

The tax increase has led many apartment owners to announce that they will be forced to raise rents or sell their properties.

"I can only afford a small increase, like $15," said Concordia student Lisa Morgan. "If my rent went up a lot, say up to $400, you'd probably find me in a gutter somewhere."

Morgan is working part-time to put herself through school and pay for the $265 rent she splits for an apartment in N.D.G. She must work because she is not eligible for loans or bursaries.

Montreal property owners are facing the biggest tax increases since 1982. Although the increases are partly due to a strong real estate market, property speculation is also up due to the possible lift on the condominium conversion ban and low interest rates.

Homes and businesses aren't the only properties affected. *The Gazette* reported recently that small apartment buildings are among the properties hardest hit. The increase is expected to be passed along to tenants in the form of higher rents.

Claude Dupras, leader of the Civic Party, says that "students should be outraged, because it's going to hit them too". Dupras predicted average rent increases of 8 per cent to 20 per cent.

But Arnold Bennett, MCM councillor and housing critic, says those figures are "utter nonsense".

According to Bennett, the vast majority of owners in the N.D.G./Snowdon area will face low tax increases, if any though there are exceptions. In a study he just completed, Bennett found that of 796 apartment buildings in N.D.G./Snowdon (with 10 or more units) 13 per cent will receive a tax reduction, 57 per cent will face small increases, while the other 30 per cent will see dramatic hikes.

Bennett says many owners will exagerate the small tax increases to their tenants and pass on unjustified higher rents to them.

"Landlords are using the publicity about the small homeowners' problems to extract rent increases from tenants," Bennett said. "They are riding on the problems of people with big tax increases, and distorting the figures for their own financial gain.

"What landlords will tell tenants is 'We just had a big property tax increase'" he said. "But what they won't do is spread it out among the units in the building."

Bennett says one owner of a small apartment building, faced with a 15 per cent property tax increase, gave each tenant a 15 per cent rent increase, rather than splitting it amongst the 8 1/2 units in the building. Had he split the tax, it would have resulted in a three-dollar increase per tenant.

Provincial laws allow owners to pass higher taxes onto their tenants through rent hikes. The Quebec Regie du logement says that on average over the last few years, 15 per cent of a tenant's rent went to paying his owner's property taxes.

In a meeting last Wednesday night at city hall, about 400 angry property owners came to protest the tax hikes. "I didn't see anyone with decreases," said Claude Roy, an administrator for the Montreal Property Owners League. "A lot of them had increases from 18 to 45 per cent. Two men had increases of 130 and 140 per cent."

"Landlords are reeling from the blow. It's happening all over the place," said league president Pierre Aubrey. "Tenants will feel the blow later."

"If the tax increases are big, the rent increases will be big," said Roy. "It's not only a landlord's problem, it's a tenant's problem too."

"I could afford an increase of about $15. Anything more and I'd find out if it was warranted," said Concordia student Scott Robertson. "If it wasn't, I'd ask to see my landlord's tax bill, or go to the rental board."

Robertson splits a $325 rent on a 4½ room apartment in N.D.G. "If it was a big tax increase I'd have to look for something else," he said.

Robertson was one of the few students spoken to who was aware of the procedures involved to contest unfair rent hikes.

Tenants who want to contest a tax increase must first file a written complaint to the rental board, stating that they refuses to pay the increase. A written copy must also be sent to the owner.

The old rent is paid while the complainants wait to be notified by mail for an appointment with the Housing Hearing Board.

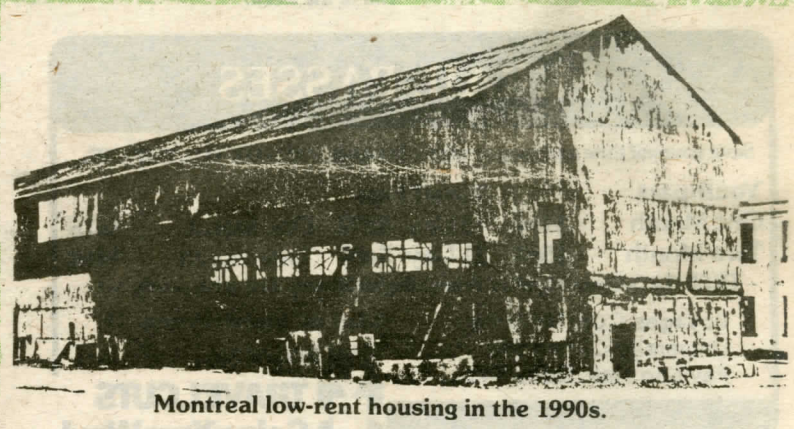
"If a student is willing to take the time to fill out a couple of forms, and then wait for his hearing, the success rate for cases won is in his favour," said Bennett. "It's a very simple process."

But students who sit back and accept their increases are taken advantage of.

After getting only a $300 bursary from the government this year, Ivan Kennedy found himself on a strict budget. He shares a $350 rent with his sister for a 3 ½ in Snowdon. "I could probably afford a minor rent increase but just up to, say $400, tops."

Kennedy, a second-year management student, typifies most students' lack of awareness. If hit with a big tax hike, the 20 year-old had "no clue" how to fight the increase.

If faced with a tax increase, or any other housing problem, students can call Bennett at the Housing Hotline, 488-0412.



Montreal low-rent housing in the 1990s.

Senate committee to take English 212

by Marie-Claude Dugas

Empty thinking, circularity, faulty usage, redundancy, mixed metaphors, cliches, jargon.

Such are the faults found by University Writing Test markers in a senate committee's report.

Although approved without comment by senate, the progress report was rejected by the arts and science faculty council as "unintelligible."

Senate is the university's highest academic decision-making body.

The report, dated December 1986, came from the senate's academic planning and priorities committee whose mandate, according to the report was "basically to coordinate the academic planning function of the University by consulting with Faculties and other academic Units, studying their planning and priority proposals, evaluating the implications of such proposals and making reports and recommendations to Senate on planning and priorities including the development of the University in relation to the external context."

"It's terrible when a university makes decisions based on thinking like this", said Graeme Decarie, acting director of the history department, who presented the motion to reject the report at the March meeting of the arts and science faculty council.

"The report just doesn't make any sense."

To back his argument, Decarie submitted the report to the University Writing Test before the faculty meeting.

"I don't know why the Progress Report is so long-winded and so hard to follow," wrote the UWT marker. "I have the impression that those who wrote it wanted to impress somebody with how hard they worked and so they dressed-up some fairly simple and obvious ideas."

"I can find serious mistakes in almost every sentence," said Decarie. "How can we complain about our students' poor writing, when people with PhDs can't pass the University Writing Test?"

Decarie thinks the report will be accepted at most of the other faculty councils in the university. "Some teacers write like that all the time. Most faculties wouldn't be able to say it's bad writing.

"I was told that I picked on grammar, on minor things. But it's not only grammar! It's logic, it's thinking," said Decarie.

In a recent lecture entitled "Why Johnny Doe B.A. cannot read or write," Decarie criticised both professors and those who hire them for students' poor writing skills, and their pursuit of obscure objectives such as "excellence" at the expense of basic literacy.

"We don't teach them how to think properly," he said. "We have to recognise that the problem is not the students; it's us. We'll see if the faculties have enough honesty to start criticising themselves."

Francis Whyte, chair of the academic planning and priorities committee and senate vice-chairperson, was reached by phone but declined to comment until more details become available.

BEWARE!

Elections for next year's CUSA co-presidents and Board of Directors are underway. You too could soon be a victim of empty thinking, circularity, faulty usage, redundancy, mixed metaphors, clichés and jargon as nominees get down to serious campaigning.

Campaigning will last until midnight, March 29, when it will once again be safe for more apathetic students to frequent the cafeterias in peace. Voting is to take place March 30, 31, and April 1. Three co-presidential slates have entered the ring as of nomination closing time: Bettina Rosenberg and Sandy McCubbin, James King and Jean Marier, and Maxine Clarke and Robert Douglas. Look for them soon at a soapbox near you.

Agenda

Use the Agenda to publicise any Concordia-related event. Drop off your info at our offices at Sir George (H-649) or mail it in, indicating "Agenda" on the envelope. Deadlines are 5 p.m. Friday for Tuesday issues, and 5 p.m. Wednesday for Friday issues.

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

Safe sex info booth information, pamphlets, free condoms, posters from Health Services. Fine Arts bldg., noon to 1:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

Coalition for Lesbian Studies at Concordia. first organisational meeting. 2 p.m., 2710 Bishop, lounge area. "How to integrate a non-heterosexist perspective into university studies..." All women, come with ideas and enthusiasm.

Seminar on Office Automation. sponsored by the Concordia chapter of the Administrative Management Society. 2:30 to 4 p.m., room H-401.

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

Art Exhibition Paul Peel: A retrospective 1860-1892. Concordia Art Gallery, Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Info: 848-4750.

Separated, divorced & widowed Catholics meeting, 7:30 p.m. Belmore House, Campus Ministry 848-3588.

Aiesec Concordia seminar "Stock Market.. Getting Started & Reaping the Benefits." Hall Building, H-110 12 p.m. Info: 848-7435.

Film: Paz Si! Guerra No! (Peace Yes, War No). on the International Peace March in Central America (Dec.1985-Jan.1986). For info call 848-7410 or 9-37-5055.

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

Guatemala: On the Road to Democracy? with Frank Larue, Guatemalan opposition official. Sponsored by Central America Committee. 8:30 p.m., H-937. Info: 848-7410.

MONDAY, MARCH 23

Greenpeace comes to Concordia. On the Mezzanine-CUSA booth. All welcome. Info. 274-5559.

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

"The Arts and Montreal in a Post-Modern Economy." Concordia Visual Arts Bldg., VA—215, 8:30 p.m. With Harry Hillman-Chartrand, Canada Council Research director. Info: 848-4646.

Central America Committee: two films on Eritrea (Ethiopia); Songs of the Next Harvest and A Time to Heal. Followed by a discussion with Quebec filmmaker Yvan Patry on filmmaking in the Third World. At 8:30 p.m.. in H-620. Info. 848-7410.

GENERAL

Political Science Students Association elections. Nomination open until March 25. Campaigning until March 29. Election day March 30.

Department of Art History presents "Etudes des Arts, Colloque d'histoire de l'art." Friday, March 27, 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Free Admission. McGill University Arts Building Room W215, 853 Sherbrooke St. W. Info: 392-4977.

Amateur Radio Club nominations and elections March 23 in H-644-1. Nominations until March 20. Bring forms to CUSA or H-644-1. Info: 844-7421.

Le SIDA: Aspects Medicaux, Psycho-Sociaux, Et Religieux. Une presentation organisée par l'Association Des Ressources Montréalaises sur le SIDA (suivie par une periode de questions). Paroisse Ste-Jeanne d'Arc, 2351 Chambly (métro Joliette). Lundi 3 mars, 19h30. Info: 937-7596.

All welcome to see and hear Canadian playwright John Gray in a reading from his own musical works at the National Theatre School, 5030 St-Denis, on Monday 23rd at at 8:30 p.m. Free admission.

SEASA General Election. March 27 from 4:00-6:30 p.m. in room H-535/1. Nomination forms available at our office, Q-O2. Nominations close on March 20. Info: 848-3532.

South Shore Cultural Week. with guest speaker Yves Wozniak on "Ski Jackets as an adulthood icon in St-Lambert." Also: Pink Floyd cover bands from Champlain college and basement ping pong tournament. Tickets to the local bowling alley will be raffled at the end of the week.

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We would like to inform you about this program and answer your questions on either full or part time enrollment, according to your personal needs. Please join us **Tuesday, March 24, 1987**

5:00 p.m. SGW campus
1455 de Maisonneuve W.
H-110, Hall Building

For further information, please call the Program Administrator, Graduate Diploma in Accountancy, at 848-2764.

Classified

Classified rates: 20 cents per word for Concordia students, 25 cents per word for others. Deadlines are 5 p.m. Friday for Tuesday issues, and 5 p.m. Wednesday for Friday issues. Drop off ad and payment in room H-649, 1455 de Maisonneuve W.

1.TYPING

Rush Typing, Guy Metro, resumes, proofreading, low rates. 934-1438.

Executive typist, competitive rates. Call 364-0058.

Attention Students: Typing done at my home $1.50 per page. Call 481-6048.

Term Papers done on word processor or electronic typewriter. 1.50/page. Same day service 2.00/page. LM. Typing Service. Guy metro 989-9432.

Word processing services - 739-7081.

Term Papers typed $1.25/pg. Call Alison 286-9735, evenings.

Typing: IBM Selectric II, $1.50 per page. Walter, 482-2816.

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2.HELP WANTED

Accountancy C213 Help wanted. Call Ron at 481-4723 after 5 p.m.

Camp Maromac, a Children's Resident Summer Camp requires staff for the following positions from June 27 to August 11, 1987; Counsellors, Instructors for: Swimming, Sailing, Sailboarding, Canoeing, Waterskiing, Tennis, Land Sports, Gymnastics, Computers, Music, Arts & Crafts, Registered Nurses, Nurses' Aids, Secretaries, Waitresses, Assistant Cooks, Potwashers. Excellent salary and working conditions. Call between 9:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. 933-4836.

Summer employment prospects grim? We are bringing back the job bank. Vote Clarke & Douglas and help get 450 students a job this summer...Before it's too late!

Wanted: Student-Teacher to teach beginner English -Weekends- Evenings. Mike 845-6719.

Wanted: Freelance journalists for Montreal magazine. 849-8442.

Participants needed for language experiment. $5.00/hr. Anglophone or bilinguals (English-French). Ask for Mimi H-531 or 848-2209 or fill out form in H-663.

Wanted: Experienced babysitter for 5-yr old boy. Several evenings & mornings/-month. Call 487-9675.

Strong person to care for man (41) with Parkinson's Disease 2-3 nights per week. 731-0111.

Job. English teacher needed. Conversation only. 7 dollars per hour, 2 hours per week. Call 627-5411.

Participants needed for psychology language-related experients. Earn 5/hr. For more info call 848-2247 or fill in questionnaire at H-663 or DS-413.

Counsellors for eight week children's summer camp. Must be bilingual and 18 or over. Send resume to Sans Souci Riding Centre, Ste. Clotilde, Quebec, J0L 1W0 or call 1-826-3503.

Wanted: Strange weird and interesting short stories. Maximum 2500 words. Must be typed. No money, but you might get published in a new foreboding literary publication. Contact Brent: 331-5501.

Metro Users: did you use the metro system last Christmas Eve? Was there a ticket vendor in the booth? If not, your safety could have been jeopradized. Call George at 871-8837, noon-5 p.m. for info.

3.FOR SALE/TO BUY

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Treeplanting equipment needed! Also need ride to B.Caround May 1st. Telephone: 526-1335.

For Sale: Nintendo Entertainment system. Includes six games, R.O.B. the robot, Zapper gun, control deck and two game controllers. Three months old. Best offer. Call 937-4709.

Handbeaded Sweatshirts for sale-reasonable 935-5533.

Metropolitan News. 1248 Peel. Newspapers, maps, latest fashion publications from all over the world. New York Times, Toronto Star, Ottawa Citizen available 10 a.m. same day.

"Black as Hell" Commando pants $40, U.S. Army work pants $15, T-shirts, 15 colours, large $6.95; safari shirts $12.95, badges $14.95; Exxa 550 President Kennedy.

U.S. Airforce trench grey $50, black $55, combat pants $35, camouflage, like jackets WWII, shirts, leather jackets. USAF $225, Exxa Military Surplus 5500 President Kennedy.

Back packs, gas masks, sweat shirts, leather jackets, T-shirts, sneaks, trench coats, combat pants, compass, sox, cotton berets, Exxa Military Surplus 845-6248.

4.COURSES/TUTORING

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5.TRAVEL

Give Loyola back their voice. Vote Clarke & Douglas...Before it's too late!

6.APTS

Ottawa bound this summer? 4 female "non-smoking" roommates wanted to share gorgeous 6 bdrm. house. $189 mo. May 1-Aug. 30. Call Wendy at 613-237-4092.

Furnished room to rent: In lower Westmount apt. With own T.V. & phhone. $250. Female only. 931-9197.

To sublet: Large 4 ½ on Claremont, close to Vendome, 24 bus stop, bank and stores. $435/mo. May-Aug. Option to renew. Call 488-9061.

Sublet 1 1/2 May 1-Aug. 31. Near McGill metro, Clean & Quiet. 845-5516.

Female roomate needed for April. 4 ½ N.D.G. $235 mo. No cats. Janet 484-4125, after 6 p.m. & weekends.

Roommate(male) wanted to share 5 ½ w/2 others. $140/mo. & utilities. 271-3441. No preppies, neat-freaks.

Roommate wanted(female) to share 5 ½ furnished apt.-5 minutes from SGW campus. $236.00(plus utilities). 844-7355.

Female looking for same to share 4 ½ apt. - 5 minutes from Loyola. $140.00 (plus utilities). Available June 1. 489-4374.

Sublet large 4 1/2, May-Sept. option to renew. Atwater & Lincoln (next to Alexis Nihon, Atwater Metro) 10 min. walk to SGW. $550/month. All but hydro included. Call 934-1417.

Apt. to sublet. May-Aug. 4 ½ $325 Laurier & St. Urbain 274-7201.

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Beer boycott may end

O'Keefe brewery up for sale

Brian Dryden

The boycott of Carling O'Keefe beer by Concordia's student association may be short lived.

CUSA voted to boycott O'Keefe products last January 14 because of the company's ties to South Africa. But Rothmans Canada Inc., which owns 50.1 per cent of O'Keefe and is partly owned by the Rembrandt Group, a South African corporation, is selling its interest in O'Keefe.

Elders IXL Ltd., an Australian based conglomerate, has agreed to buy Rothmans' 50.1 per cent control of O'Keefe. If the sale is finalised and the new owners are clean of financial ties to South Africa, a motion will be presented to CUSA board members to end the boycott.

CUSA co-president G. Scott White says CUSA will wait until the sale is completed before holding a vote to end the boycott.

"Assuming there's nothing wrong with the new company, a motion will be presented to the board and then the boycott will be over," White said.

The earliest a motion to end the boycott can be presented to CUSA's board of directors is March 25 at the board's next session, he said.

O'Keefe official Gary Chilvers says O'Keefe expects the student boycotts directed against O'Keefe to stop because of the change in ownership.

"We aren't connected to Rothmans anymore so the boycotts should end," Chilvers said. "It has been in all the papers that Rothmans sold O'Keefe. They know there is no more connection."

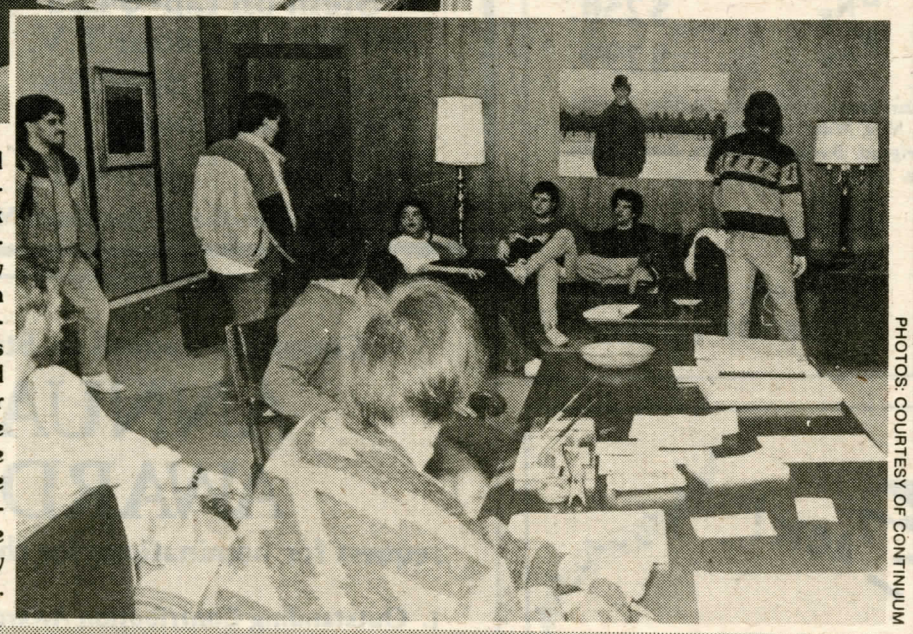
Robert Douglas, a member of Concordia Students Against Apartheid (CSAA), says it looks like the boycott will be called off.

"We're going to investigate the new company's links and if they're clean the boycott will end," Douglas said. "That's what I think will happen."

The sale of O'Keefe from Rothmans to Elders IXL Ltd. has to be approved by Investment Canada, the federal review agency which reviews foreign investment in Canada. But because Rothmans Canada Inc. is foreign-owned there seems to be no reason the sale would not be approved.

Douglas says the only problem is that Elders IXL has been on a buying spree because of relaxed financial regulations in Australia and they may buy a company with South African ties. But he says that is why CSAA will investigate the company before calling for the end of the boycott.

U. de Montréal sit-in protests "materials fee"



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF CONTINUUM

Université de Montréal students took a different route last week from those at Concordia when the university talked of imposing a $40 per semester "educational materials fee"—they occupied the rector's office for four days. Five were arrested, including the secretary general of the U de M student association, when police evicted them Friday night.

Friendship society at Concordia

Iraqi, Iranian students build ties

Jim Lewis

A desire to change the negative view Canadians have of the Iran-Iraq conflict has led some students at Concordia to form a new club on campus.

The Iraqui-Iranian Friendship Association (IIFA) is the first student association in the world to promote understanding of the two countries according to IIFA vice-president Dhia Shamkhi.

"When Canadians think of Iraq or Iran, they picture a bunch of stupid people who hate and fight and kill each other," says Shamkhi, a 24-year-old engineering student.

IIFA president Abbas Jasmin says the seven-year-old Iran-Iraq war is the reason for Canadians' negative view.

"Canadians should know that most people in Iraq and Iran don't want to fight this war. It is very unpopular," Abbas said.

Shamkhi says Canadians "don't realise that Iraq and Iran have a strong historical bond."

The bond began thousands of years ago when the spread of Babylonian civilisation and the Ottoman Empire stamped a common culture on both nations according to Shamkhi. He says the bond was reinforced after World War I when the British occupied the two countries.

Shamkhi says forming the association wasn't easy. The judicial board of the Concordia University Students' Association rejected the first IIFA constitution, and some CUSA members have opposed the association's existence.

In January, Jim Locke, CUSA liaison committee member, was quoted saying that official status for the IIFA might lead to applications from "a Honduran left-handed chess players' society."

Other sources at CUSA said they thought the IIFA goals were admirable, but they couldn't provide space or funding. They said they were also concerned about wasting money since the university already has an Iranian students association.

But Shamkhi says G. Scott White, CUSA co-president, and Effie Panousos, another CUSA liaison member, advised him to fight the judicial board's decision.

"They came back with a revised constitution and the board approved them after the new year," Panousos said.

The IIFA has set up office in the Centennial building on the Loyola campus (room C-212). Shamkhi says there are 30 members, but serious recruiting efforts will only begin this week.

"We can start planning our activities now," Shamkhi said. "We want to get guest speakers and set up information booths."

"We want to show Concordia students that people from Iraq and Iran are basically the same peoople facing the same problems," Jasmin adds. "We both want peace, but we have no chance to be friends back home."

News Briefs

Student protest lives on in solidarity with S. Africa

In the late 60s, the Hall building mezzanine was the scene of an almost daily barrage of rallies, lecturers and protest. The spirit of those days will be revived this week as Concordia hosts a series of lectures and videos dedicated to international solidarity.

From Monday to Wednesday will be an array of speakers, films, video and information displays dedicated to the issues of South Africa, Central America and Native peoples.

Organised by Concordia Students Against Apartheid, the Central America Committee and Q-PIRG, the series boasts an impressive variety of events. Some of the highlights include Theatre Shmeatre, an improv theatre group performing political satire on Central America; Kitty Molefe, an African National Congress (ANC) representative from the Women's section; Gerald MacPhokobye, a Black Consciousness Movement (BCM) representative and Earl Cross, a Canadian native from the Longhouse of Kahnawaka.

"The idea of such an event is to increase people's awareness of some of the crimes against humanity which continue to be perpetrated and refueled by the Western world," said Central America Committee coordinator Wayne Hiltz.

"The three days of events will hopefully enlighten the hard-headed and bring together the concerned and supportive so that further action can be taken," added participant Adrian Archer.

The week coincides with the 26th anniversary of the Sharpeville massacre in which nearly 100 black South African protestors—mostly women and children—were gunned down by state security officers during a peaceful protest. ANC youth representative Neo Rafambe will conclude the series on Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. with a lecture on the significance and impact of the massacre.

Homeless *youth* are an issue too

Canada's always had its bums, but now they're recruiting young. "It Could be You" is a flash conference on the latest hip fad among young people: poverty.

The two-day conference, starting on April 1, will emphasise the plight of the city's 10,000 homeless youth. Poverty among young women will be focused on. Organisers are looking for experts on illegal survival skills to help with a non-academic discussion of that topic. Other topics to be tackled include student poverty and unemployment.

Anyone interested in helping with the conference, which is sponsored by CUSA, Youth for Youth and *the Link*, can attend a meeting at CUSA's downtown office on Wednesday at 2:30.

Engineers ace competition

Concordia Engineering students proved they are among the best in the province by winning the Quebec Engineering Competition held at Concordia last week.

Concordia students finished in the top three places in all five categories, with two first-place, a second, and two third-place finishes.

Dr. G.D. Xistris, assistant dean of Engineering and Computer Science, says Concordia's first place finish in the competition shows the quaity of the students in the engineering department.

According to Xistris, that winning the competition is prestigious for the university and engineering students because of the good name it gives the program among companies and other universities.

The competition was the third one in the past three years, but it was the first time Concordia has won. It is organised by the different engineering associations in the universities competing in the contest.

"This time the faculty should stand back and the students should take all the credit," Xistris said. "I feel very strongly about this, the students should take all the credit because they did all the work."

Two of Concordia's winners at the March 6 and 7 competition will represent Concordia at the Canadian Engineering Competition in Edmonton March 20 to 22.

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9.PERSONAL

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To Ron Vadas: Read a book, somewhere, called: You and Your Mind, Part II.

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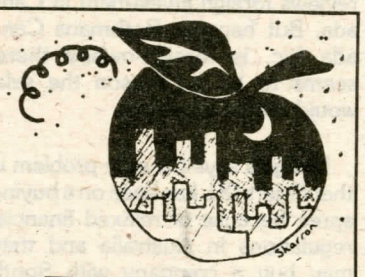

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CUSA Office
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GSA Office
S.G.W. Campus
T-202

CUSA Office
S.G.W. Campus
H-637

Nomination Deadline :
March 23, 1987

Coors: From America's right-wing to you

by Ron Charles and Tu Thanh Hà

The contrast is ironic. Coors, the famous beer from Colorado, has a taste so distinctive that Gerald Ford was said to have it flown by Air Force One to the White House. Yet, the same beer is also being boycotted by a wide variety of groups and unions, even by the Boston city council.

Behind the public image of the beer are accusations that the brewery has backward labour practices, hiring scabs, busting unions and harassing their members. Former employees have also testified that Coors used lie-detector tests to probe their personal life, sexual orientation and political beliefs.

Even more revealing are reports about William Coors, the company's former chief executive officer who believes that blacks lack "intellectual capacity," and the fact that the Coors family funds extreme right-wing groups such as the Heritage Foundation and the John Birch society.

The controversy has therefore spilled to Canada when Molson Breweries of Canada started licensing Coors in this country in November 1985.

"It's easy to brush off a Coors boycott here, saying that there is not much money involved and that Coors is not profiting directly," says Thomas Burnside, speaking for the ad-hoc Montreal coalition to boycott Coors. "But this is a fallacy. The Coors company reaps millions from licensing fees...

"Right-wing political groups are a very real and growing presence in the States—and that's scary," Burnside says.

"Most allegations people have heard about (Coors) belong ten years ago," Molson communications manager Kathleen Maunder says however. "It's not the case today—Coors has one of the most progressive statement in hiring in North America."

What to believe then? Coors the brewery against human rights? Or Coors, the company with one of the better affirmative action programme in the U.S.?

Coors's public relations campaign

One reason why people are convinced that Coors is unfairly singled out has been the company's efforts to clean up its public image.

In an October 1984 agreement with six U.S. Latino groups, Coors formally promised to contribute financially to the Hispanic community. A similar agreement was signed the same year with black groups. Coors officials stated in 1985 that the company would spend $625 million in the following five years on minority programmes.

There is a catch however. The agreements are bound to the amount of sales that Coors will obtain from Hispanic and black communities.

According to the text of the Hispanic agreement for example, Coors's contribution is defined as "returning a share of company resources back to the Hispanic community in direct proportion to the percentage of business that Coors enjoy from that community."

"I don't know of any responsible company that says 'we'll give you money if you can show us that our beer is selling'," says David Stickler, coordinator for the boycott of Coors by the AFL/CIO (American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations, the U.S.'s largest union).

"Their contribution to the community is based on that community's ability to chugalug beer."

The agreements are however the basis for Molson's argument that Coors is no longer boycotted by minority groups in the U.S.

Similarly, Coors' hiring of women and minorities has been criticised by a report by the California Public Interest Group (CalPIRG), a network of student groups at the Universities of California at Berkeley, San Diego and Santa Clara.

According to the report, Coors has been taken to court and put on probation by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, a U.S. federal agency, for "unlawful employment practices." The report states that "it was only after the EEOC filed suit that the company began to improve their hiring practices regarding women and minorities."

Figures show that Coors' hiring for minorities rose to 13 per cent in 1977. Women hiring also increased to 16 per cent.

The Stanford boycott committee notes though that the improvement only came after the company replaced striking workers with

The Stanford boycott committee notes though that the improvment only came after the company replaced striking workers with non-union employees, quoting Coors vice-president Gerry Kaveny as saying that "We have improved upon our affirmative action goals...since many strikers were permanently replaced with women and minority persons, which may have otherwise taken years to accomplish."

Coors' labour practices

The use of lie-detectors to hire employees is the most famous charge made against Coors. According to sworn affidavits from former employees, questions asked during those polygraph tests included: Are you a homosexual? Are you a Communist? What is your religion? What is your religion?

"I feel that these questions were degrading and an invasion of my privacy," says one of the affidavit, signed by former employee Oliver Desmarais in September 1977.

Answers from Coors and Molson to the accusations have been contradictory.

In a 1982 interview on CBS' *60 Minutes*, Joseph and William Coors shifted the blame to the hired consultant who was conducting the test in the 1970s. "There was a time when we didn't know what questions were asked," said Joseph Coors. "So I can't tell you Mike (Wallace) that those questions were not asked."

According to Molson's Kathleen Maunders, the tests are nowadays used only "under special circumstances with security jobs, to check if a person is honest—there are no personal questions."

In an interview with Canadian University Press in September 1986, John Meadows, director of community relations for Coors said that "Lie-detector tests are no longer enforced, in fact they were stopped about a month ago."

Other practices are Coors have also been questioned. Company policies allow searches of employees' lockers and cars and mention violations to "common decency or morality of the community," as a reason for firing workers, a measure that can easily be used against gay employees.

To protest working conditions at the Colorado plant, brewery workers chose by a 94 per cent vote to go on strike in April 1977. In response, Coors decertified the union in December 1978.

The removal of the union was made possible because U.S. labour laws only allow workers remaining at the plant to cast ballots if the decertifying vote is taken more than one year after the start of the strike. Thus, only strike breakers and not strikers voted to get rid of the AFL/CIO local.

"The fact of the matter is they've busted 14 unions," says Stickler. "They say they're pro-people, not anti-union but what are unions except pro-people?

"It's like the old cliché of the wolf guarding the chicken shed. Once all the guards have been killed they can report to the rest of the world 'all is fine'..."

The boycott's effectiveness

As a result of the 1977 strike and union-busting, the AFL/CIO launched a national boycott campaign of Coors products. The company had already been boycotted by women, minority and gay groups, some as early as the mid-1960s.

The Coors boycott campaign has been the most effective labour boycott in U.S. history says David Sickler.

"Last year Coors sold 14 million barrels in 45 states, ten years ago Coors sold 14.7 million barrels in only 11 states" Sickler says. "They've gone from spending 7 million dollars in advertising in 1976 to spending 200 million dollars, the highest in the industry last year."

According to a July 1985 article in the *New York Times*, the company's decrease in its share of the American market has forced Coors to expand into new markets in urban areas in the eastern U.S.

When asked if Molson's licensing of the American beer is part of Coors' expansion eastward, Molson's Maunder declared that the details of the agreement were confidential. "I don't see the need to probe the licensing details," she said.

According to the Molson Companies Ltd. 1986 annual report, the fiscal year was "challenging and eventful," citing labour problems and decreased sales. Only one positive point is mentioned: the sales of Coors.

"(Coors and Coors Light) have given Molson a very solid entry into a market segment in which it was previously not represented," says the report. "Consumer acceptance of these brands has exceeded expectations..."

The report also mentions that "our association with Coors has provided a new vehicle for expansion in the U.S. market. The U.S.-based Masters Brewing Company was formed in October 1985 with Molson and Coors each having a 50 percent equity interest."

The Coors family

One aspect of the controversy that the company does not deny is the Coors' family involvement with right-wing groups in the U.S.

The CalPIRG report mentions that "Joseph Coors has contributed to the John Birch Society, the Heritage Foundation (a right-wing lobby founded by the Coors family), the Committee for the survival of a Free Congress, the King Ministry (dedicated to "saving" homosexuals from their "sinful lifestyles"), Phyllis Schlaffly's anti-ERA Eagle Forum, and Concerned Citizens (a California group pressing for reinstatement of criminal penalties for homosexuals) to name just a few."

According to a March 29, 1984 column in *The Washington Post* by Dorothy Gilliam, the Heritage Foundation, to which Joseph and William Coors contributes, is a conservative think-tank responsible for the Reagan adminstration's anti-affirmative action philosophy, thus contradicting Coors' highly-publicised hiring of minorities and women.

"The big problem with the Coors corporation is what they do with the money that they profit from the company," says Lee Cridland of CalPIRG. "And what they do with that is put it into a lot of right-wing organisations that definitely aren't out there advocating for minority rights, or gay rights, or women's rights..."

"To support somebody financially doesn't necessarily mean you support all their policies," said Meadows in the 1986 interview. "We're not perfect but the ultimate solution is to change attitudes."

One wonders however about the Coors family attitude when William Coors tells minority business people in Denver that "One of the best thing (slave traders) did for you is to drag your ancestors over here in chains."

Speaking about African blacks, he also said that "They lack the intellectual capacity to succeed, and it's taking them down the tubes."

Coors later said his remarks were taken out of context.

"Yeah, they can fund whatever right-wing groups they want and we can also not buy their beer," says Gary Dotterman, press secretary for Boston city council member David Scoundras.

After being approached by Coors officials who asked him to stay out of any boycott in the Boston area, Scoundras agreed not to take any action until studying documents from both sides.

"Coors sent John Meadows and a group of people here to talk to David (Scoundras) in June of 85," says Dotterman. "David agreed not to do anything until he had an opportunity to read everything that they provided and everything that the union provided...

"He said he would write a letter to John Meadows if he had any concerns."

In an August 1985 letter to Coors, Scoundras detailed several charges that he considered unanswered. Included were mentions that the company tried to prevent birth control information from being distributed to female students at the University of Colorado in the 1970s, was found guilty of racial discrimination by the Colorado Civil Rights Commission, and turned away health and safety inspectors.

Scoundras' letter was never answered and the Boston city council went ahead, unanimously approving a boycott of Coors on January 16, 1986.

Porn degrading to everyone

to the editors:

During International Women's Week, curiosity brought me to pick up, on the literatue table at Concordia, a copy of a small booklet entitled: *Pornography: A Human's Right Issue Which Concerns Both Men and Women.* There were many interesting points of views made. It exposed the difference between pornography and erotica: "The English word comes from the Greek word porne and graphos, meaning "writings about prostitutes"(...) erotica (...) is derived from Eros the god of sexual love. It refers to the material which portrays sexual acts in an atmosphere of mutual caring, not just for sale as a commodity."

Society often confuses both because both are sexually explicit. Personaly, I could not agree more with what was said about the utterly sickening but common judgement about sex or nudity: "We object to a standard which judges that the sight of an erection, even for sex education purposes, or the depiction of a heterosexual or homosexual acts between loving equals is "obscene" while the depiction of rape and mutilation of a woman for the sexual pleasure of the viewer is held to be "within community standards" so long as not too much skin is visible during the crime." Everyone should agree that rape or assault is bad regardless if whether or not skin is shown and there is absolutly wrong with sexual love, owever explicit it may be.

A common myth portrayed by society is that the main feminist anti-porn mouvement is "sexual oppression" and that porn magazines is "sexual liberty." A careful anylysis would show the exact opposite.

Recent history demonstrates how the feminist mouvement was involved in sexual liberation; when it came to introducing sex edcation in ılic schools, as was the case in New Brunswick, feminists were there. When it comes to giving out information about contraceptives, as is the case with the Concordia Women's Collective, feminists are there. And if one looks back in the 60s one can see feminists marching for free contraceptives and freedom to breast feed their babies in public.

Most pornographic material despite being very explicit with sex can be extremely sexually oppressed. With quotes like "good girls go to heaven and bad girls go everywhere", "obscenity increases your pleasure", "bad guys do it most", "when I have to choose between two evils I pick the one I haven't tried" and "she is the naughtiest girl in town" we see that pornography views sex as being incorrect, degrading, abnormal, revolting, tasteless, improper, wrong, filthy, indecent, scandalous, decadent, evil, unethical, slimy, sick and repugnant. What sane human being can possibly consider that sexual liberalism?

The booklet also mentions the fact that pornography can incite someone to commit a sexual assault had never been proven. But there is cause for concern. It also points out that the anti-porn mouvement is accused of being "pro-censorship fascists." Let us clarify a point, pornography is entertainment, it is not information, therefore why would one object to the government regulating or controlling it?

Another common myth is that pornography portray's women as loving rape. When a woman is violently raped in a film she is usually screaming but the man is apparently "enjoying it." When someone screams in horror it usually means that he or she does not like what is happening. Pornography can degrade women, but what about men? It can often portray us as being rapists or even cold-blooded murderers. If that is not degrading...what is? The booklet never really talks about that aspect. I consider its title *Pornography: A Human Rights Issue that concerns both Men and Women* fundamentally wrong.

Denys Grant
engineering

To our correspondents

1) **To Peter Viney:** we can't take hand-written letters that aren't fully legible. We will be glad to accept a typed copy however. Don't assume that we won't print your submission because you differ in opinion with us—you're not exactly the first person who writes to disagree with our editorial positions.

2) To the "reader who wishes too remain anonymous for fear of offensive reprisals" and the student complaining about the SGW cafeteria: we cannot accept anonymous submissions. Talk with one of our editors if you want to withhold your name.

3) **To A. Roy and V. Brown:** we can't print your letters in their present states (one is libellous, the other homophobic). Feel free to call *the Link* office to talk about it.

The Link welcomes letters to the editors. Submissions should not exceed 400 words. They must be signed and accompanied by a phone number. Letters may be edited for length, or sexist, racist, or homophobic content.

To all Link staffers

Time again to find a new meaning to life in the endless wheel of suffering that modern society has set for us. Reach the nirvana, find the Tao, run for a *Link* editorial position. It's more fun than CUSA elections.

Elections will be held Friday March 27 at 4 p.m. in room H-649. Open positions include: editor; news editor; national news editor; city editor; features editor, art, cuture and fun editor; sports editor; French editor; photography editor; production manager; computer systems manager; business manager or any other position staffers deem necessary to create.

The following people are eligible to be voting staff members:

Brent Barrett	Kim Coleman	Kathryn Greenaway	Jim McRae
Alison Brown	Stephen Dafoe	Carla Gruodis	Ralph Mills
Brendan Cahill	Andy Dah	Fabio Iannantuono	Sara Morley
Elie Castie	Aaron Derfel	George Kalogerakis	Leanne Murray
Ron Charles	France Desilets	Carmi Levy	Lisa Pasold
Maxine Clarke	Michael Fairney	Ann McLaughin	Lynn Suderman
Troy Suzuki	Mike Thomas	Tu Thanh Hà	Steve Wozniak

The following need one more issue top qualify:

Brian Dryden Andy Riga

Support the SOMAFCO fight

"Natives will be taught from early childhood that equality with Europeans is not for them... There is no place for him above the level of certain forms of labour."

—A.F. Verwoerd
Former South African Minister of Native Affairs

by Steve Miller

The idea of educating a people to liberate them first took hold in southern Africa with FRELIMO's schools in the "liberated zones" of war-torn Mozambique. Ever since then, this practice has spread like a bush fire, contributing significantly to the enlightenment of non-white South Africans.

Though the repressive nature of racist South Africa has not permitted the establishment of freedom colleges within South Africa, neighboring countries such as Tanzania have been very receptive to the idea. In 1978, the Tanzanian government gave more than 250 acres of land in Mazimbo for the explicit purpose of establishing an educational institute there. Following the 1976 Soweto uprising against "Bantu Education," after which 12,000 young people fled the country, the need for such an institution was particularly obvious.

The ANC deemed the education of children in exile to be a top priority. The Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College (affectionately known as SOMAFCO) now house about 1,000 students and over 100 staff and support personnel. The purpose of SOMAFCO, named after an ANC student activist hanged in 1979 for his anti-government actions, is to help prepare for the post-liberation society in South Africa, to train future leaders of the country,, and to support the ongoing freedom struggle.

Students at the primary level are instructed in the basic principles of reading, writing and arithmetic, with the study of history and English being compulsory. At the secondary level, students work toward passing their examination for the General Certificates of Education (of the University of London) and an internal ANC examination.

In addition to South Africans, there are volunteers from the German Democratic Republic, Holland and Britain. Since 1980, a number of African, European and North American nations have extended university scholarships to qualified SOMAFCO students. Financial support is provided by international organisations such as UNESCO and primarily Scandinavian governmental donations.

As well as offering an education to people of all ages, from tin children to the elderly who have never had the chance to go to school, several other important activities are underway at SOMAFCO. For instance, a health care centre, free of charge to all South African exiles, provides preventative, curative, maternal and childcare services in addition to community health education and in-service training for ANC Medical Cadres.

The ANC even operates a photo laboratory at Mazimbu. The Eli Weinberg photo laboratory develops photographs for publicity campaigns and uses VHS video equipment to produce audiovisual materials for students and to document momentous events for the archives.

Unfortunately, the ANC is still hard-pressed to fund trained personnel to expand these programmes. Trained medical personnel and science teachers are most urgently sought after, but other qualified people are certainly welcome.

Because the financial resources of the ANC are severely limited, the college is short of many basic materials and texts. Though several European nations are donating funds to SOMAFCO, Canada for unknown reasons, has not yet done so.

The Black Students' Network and the South Africa Committee at McGill will address this situation by sponsoring a benefit concert for SOMAFCO on Saturday, March 21. All funds raised will go to the production of an African history textbook. We urge the Concordia community to show its support.

Concordia University
Montreal, Quebec

Volume 7, Number 36
Tuesday, March 17, 1987

the Link

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Advertising Department: 848-7406

The Link is published every Tuesday and Friday during the academic year by the Link Publication Society. Content is independent of the university and the Concordia University Students' Association. **Editorial policy is set by an elected board as provided for in the *Link*'s constitution. Current members of the board are: Iain Cook, Michael Farney, Carla Gruodis, Nancy McHarg, and Ralph Mills.** Any student is welcome to join *the Link* and become a voting staff member. **Central mailing address: Concordia university, Hall building, room H-649, 1455 de Maisonneuve ouest, Montreal, Quebec, H3G 1M8.** For national advertising *the Link* is a member of Campus Plus (Canadian University Press Media Services Ltd.), 124 Merlon street, Toronto, Ontario, M4S 2Z2, (416) 481-7283. Typesetting by *the Link*. Printed by Inter-Hauf Development. ***The Link* is a member of Canadian University Press and the Ontario Community Newspapers Association.**

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Letters

Multimags porn invades arts corner

to the editors:

The Multimags store (corner de Maisonneuve and Guy) is usually discreet about its placement of pornographic material and stashes it away where those who are interested can search it out and others do not have to be assaulted by it.

The demarcation line is drawn in a corner where art and porn lovers rub shoulders as they browse through a wealth of periodicals and the debate about which is which goes on.

Alas, a new magazine has esaped the corner, *Rock & Folk* trying no doubt to capitalise on the maxim that "nothing sells a bad magazine like sex" is now in full view, baring siliconed breasts and vacant expressions.

I spoke to two bewildered employees who seemed amused at my suggestion that by leaving the offending copy there they were degrading and humiliating approximatively half their clients (women). I suggested that they might, as a sign of respect, albeit "lip service" only, put it behind other magazines or banish it to the porn corner.

They insisted that the magazine must remain in its section and in the open as it was a new publication and needed exposure.

If women are to be abused and used, I wonder if, for the sake of equality we could not have the cover of a very nude male to balance things out. No doubt there would then be lightening action taken.

Anne-Marie Gilmore

New library design poor and wasteful

to the editors:

Over the last two issues o the *Thursday Report* an update on the new building has been presented. I would like to comment on the downtown building complex.

If over 50 per cent of the building space will be occupied by the library I feel that the users of the library (students, faculty and staff) as well as the library personnel deserve a better building. Notwithstanding the thousands of hours already invested in planning by the library personnel, in the last two weeks we have been asked to provide the architects with our proposals as to integrating library services into a "fait accompli." This has been an exercise in frustration. Where is all that expansion space and study space we asked for years ago? Why has our expertise been ignored?

Given the proposed design, I am reluctant to donate my money for such a project. I have already refused to solicit funds for the capital campaign because of the poor design of this project. I believe in the philosophy of education in this university. I work for the library. I am a graduate of Concordia. However, I am not prepared to financially support a project in which the users of this university will again be the losers. Concordia deserves the best designed library possible. The Royal George and the Galleria concept defeat this purpose. Let's go back to the drawing board.

Suzanne Clement
library acquisitions dept.

TESL merger is inappropriate

to the editors:

The TESL student association president is quoted in "TESL profs in a tussle" as stating that "students don't feel threatened by the merger as the faculty does."

In response I should like to note that while the majority of th TESL faculty do oppose the merger, they don't feel "threatened" by it. Rather, they feel that the proposed merger is inappropriate. The centre's recognised needs at present are for the following additional faculty: (1) PhD in socio-linguistics to strength both the graduate and undergraduate; (2) additional permanent personnel to strenghten the expanding internship programme; and (3) an additional methodologist. We certainly do not share professor Famira's cavalier opinions about the linguistics professors (indeed we acknowledge them to be inspiring, dedicated teachers), but we believe that their particular specialties do not answer our centre's current needs.

Dean Bertrand has told our director, Patsy Lightbown, that if a "significant number" of tthe TESL faculty oppose the merger, it will not be pushed. I would assume that a majority constitutes a "significant number," so I assume that any further discussion of the issue is irrelevant.

Molly Petrie
associate professor
applied linguistics

TESL should be kept

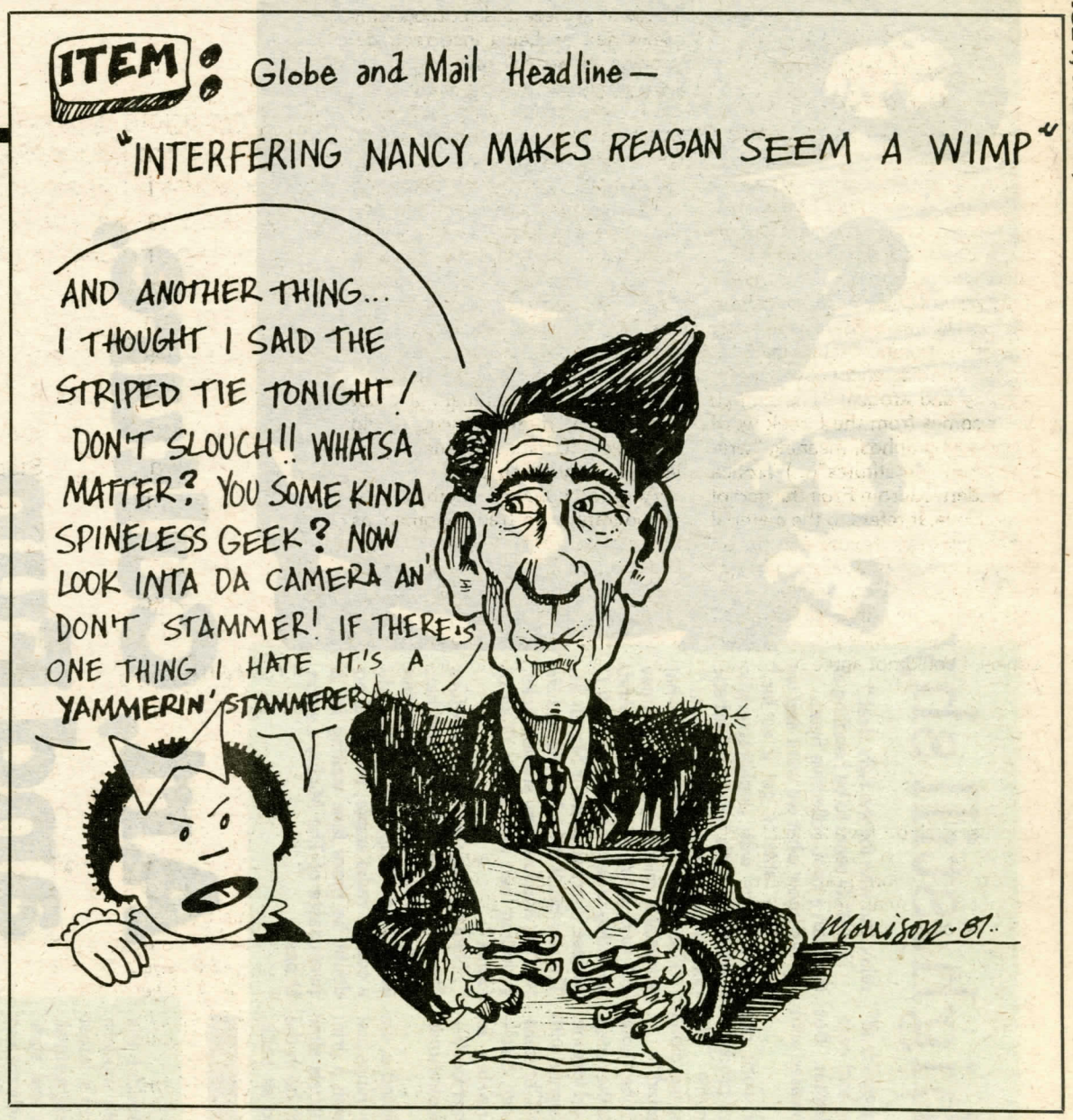
to the editors:

Re. the article "TESL profs in a tussle" (*the Link*, March 6) regarding the proposal that the theoretical linguists join the TESL Centre, if a group of people decided that they wanted to move into your apartment with you, would you count their votes and say the idea "has gained wide support?"

Within the TESL Centre, of the eleven full-time faculty members, two are on leave and did not circulate position papers. Two other members are unequivocally in favour of the idea, one of them being the director of the TESL Centre who you quoted at some length. Of the remaining seven members, six drew up a position paper stating their firm opposition to the proposal.

The TESL Centre is a department whose aim is to teach English as a Second Language and to train professionals for this field. The TESL Centre is nationally and internationally known. It is also widely envied by our colleagues in the field: many TESL programs in Canada and the U.S.A. are kept in uneasy alliances in departments with English literature or with theoretical linguistics. Our TESL Centre gained its independence (from the English Department) in 1973. Let us keep the freedom we worked hard to gain.

Gwen Newsham
associate professor
applied linguistics


ITEM: Globe and Mail Headline—
"INTERFERING NANCY MAKES REAGAN SEEM A WIMP"
AND ANOTHER THING... I THOUGHT I SAID THE STRIPED TIE TONIGHT! DON'T SLOUCH!! WHATSA MATTER? YOU SOME KINDA SPINELESS GEEK? NOW LOOK INTA DA CAMERA AN' DON'T STAMMER! IF THERE'S ONE THING I HATE IT'S A YAMMERIN' STAMMERER
Morrison-87

Link constant source of frustrations

to the editors:

Recent issues raised in *the Link* have prompted me to write. I have resisted all impulses to write in the past, but I felt that it was time that I made my opinions known. *The Link*'s stories have been a constant source of frustration for myself and other Concordia students, but I never wrote because I thought that my letter would never be published. I still don't think that this letter will see print, but it may force you to think anyhow. Of the many crittics of *the Link*, few ever decide to write. If more people complained, perhaps a change would be forthcoming.

When thinkng of *the Link*, it has been hard to choose one specific issue that bothered me because there have been many. However, one point of conflict recently surfaced. It is your preoccupation with sex and sexism and your biased attitudes. The Link's writers are a bunch of extremists and reactionaries, not journalists (sports and entertainment are excluded on this point). It would be hard to write more one-sided articles than *the Link* does. By "preoccupation with sex...", I mean your habit of taking any subject that can be remotely construed as sexist and blowing them way out of proportion. Your attack on the ECA was not reporting, it bordered on slander. Newspapers have been taken to court for less grievous offences. What the story (*The Link*, January 23) amounted to was an outright attack on the characters of all male Engineering students.

I am not an Engineer, but I felt insulted by the characterisations made in the article. It offended me, as a man, to be told that if I watch an R-rated sex comedy, or go to a strip joint, I am a sexist. I have gone to strip joints and have seen a few X-rated movies in my time, but I am not a sexist. To be called a sexist for these actions is reprehensible. I treat all the women I know with respect and consideration that they deserve. The fact that I have watched sex on video and seen a few women strip in bars, has absolutely no bearing on how I act towards women. Before you accuse me of being self-serving, I want to make a point. My point is that not all men who watch sexy movies, or go to strip clubs with their friends, are not sexist. Granted, there may be chauvinists in the ECA, but the Association does not consist entirely of sexists. The activities that these men engaged in should not qualify them as such.

Your "apology" about the Faubourg/St.Catherine ad was sickening. It was testimony to the kind of "print now—think later" journalism *the Link* practices. Do you know what I thought of when I saw the ad? I thought of the pretzel. The ad appealed to my taste buds and not to my libido. The pretzel in the picture is the kind I enjoy eating at baseball games at the Big O. I have often wondered about where else I could purchase these delightful pretzels. I paid no attention to the woman in the ad, or her expression. It was, indeed the product I saw, not the packaging. Any sexual connotations that have been derived from the ad are purely figments of your vivd imaginations. To please the editors of *the Link*, I guess advertisers should submit ads that are devoid of people. That is extreme, but then it mirrors th attitudes displayed in *the Link*.

I have little hope of seeing this letter published, but at least I had my opinions heard. If my letter is published, you will, no doubt, dismiss my arguments in some feably written paragraph. Just as you did for the letter from the secretary of the ECA (*the Link* February 12). You can deny the validity of my arguments if you want, but you can't deny the status quo. Many students at Concordia hold the same, dim view of *the Link* as I do. Think about it.

Ian Logan
independent studies

Candidates want to listen to students

to the editors:

Another year has gone by and once again CUSA elections are upon us (yawn). Before you say, "Oh no, not another boring CUSA irrelevancy" and chuck this paper into your bird cage lining, bear with us for a minute.

Last year, only about 10 per cent of Concordia students voted in the CUSA elections. It would be very easy to dismiss this figure and put it down to student apathy. This is a familiar refrain used by Cusoids to explain why they have consistently failed to appeal to the other 90 per cent of students who feel completely alienated by their student association.

We have decided to run for co-president to represent this silent majority. To this end, we refuse to patronise students by pretending to know what is best for 24,000 people. We believe in listening to students' voices. We believe that those who are CUSA representatives should encourage this, decentralising power out of the hands of that small clique and back to the students.

We would like to invite interested students to get involved in our campaign. More importantly, we would like to encourage any student to call us during the campaign to voice their concerns, ideas and suggested priorities for CUSA. We can be reached at 931-9142.

Maxine Clarke
Robert Douglas

The Mighty Lemon Drops, riding high, still shy

by Scott T. Burlingham

The Mighty Lemon Drops have been called everything from the best of the new crop of British guitar bands to the saviours of pop music.

Their rapid rise to independent fame in Britain has been accompanied by almost unanimously positive press coverage. In Britain, where slagging bands is as popular as soccer, this alone is a worthy accomplishment.

Paul Marsh, *The Drops* vocalist, is at once naive—"is there any chance of us getting played on commercial radio here?"—and charming. He is also probably the shyest front man in pop music.

This personality trait is likely the reason *The Lemon Drops* resemble *The Jesus and Mary Chain* live. At their March 4 Spectrum date—as one quarter of the British Four Play show—*The MLD* didn't shake their butts, leap around or explode flashpots. They just played their music. And that turned out to be more than enough.

The afternoon before the show, Paul Marsh quietly and nervously discussed his band, *The Mighty Lemon Drops*.

From the beginning, *The MLD* have drawn comparisons to *Echo and the Bunnymen* and *The Teardrop Explodes*. Marsh doesn't seem overly concerned.

"We may have a similar feel or attitude, but I honestly don't think we sound like them," he says.

"I mean, we listened to those bands, and that was the time when we could start going to see live acts, but our main influences are probably 60s soul and 70s punk."

Marsh follows quickly with his own description of *The Drops* sound: "We've got the melody of the 60s with the energy of the 70s."

But, whether it is admitted or not, *The MLD* do sound like they could have been part of the early 80s Liverpool scene. Live, they combine a huge guitar sound with solid pop hooks. They make their recorded material—the debut LP *"Happy Head"* was released here last November—sound nothing short of incomplete.

"We still have to get the right sound on record," says Paul. "Ideally, it should be much closer to the live sound—much more powerful and aggressive."

And their relatively short career—the band formed in the spring of '85—has not been without its problems. Even if they are of the sort no band would mind.

"We moved straight from recording *"Like an Angel"* (their debut single) on an 8-track in a livingroom to this huge 24-track studio. We had no idea what to do with it."

After the initial success of *"Like an Angel"*—it stayed in the independent top 20 for 48 weeks—expectations were high for the LP.

Upon its release, *"Happy Head"* was greeted with critical and commercial success in Britain. But Marsh seems less than pleased with the finished product.

"Things didn't really work out with Stephen Street (their producer who also did *The Smith's "The Queen is Dead"*). Also, we didn't really know what we wanted."

The band's reservations, however, didn't seem to affect the reception of the LP or their good fortune. Early in 1986, they were signed with Blue Guitar—a division of Chrysalis-in Britain. By late summer, Sire—home to such luminaries as Madonna and *The Talking Heads*—had picked them up for North American distribution.

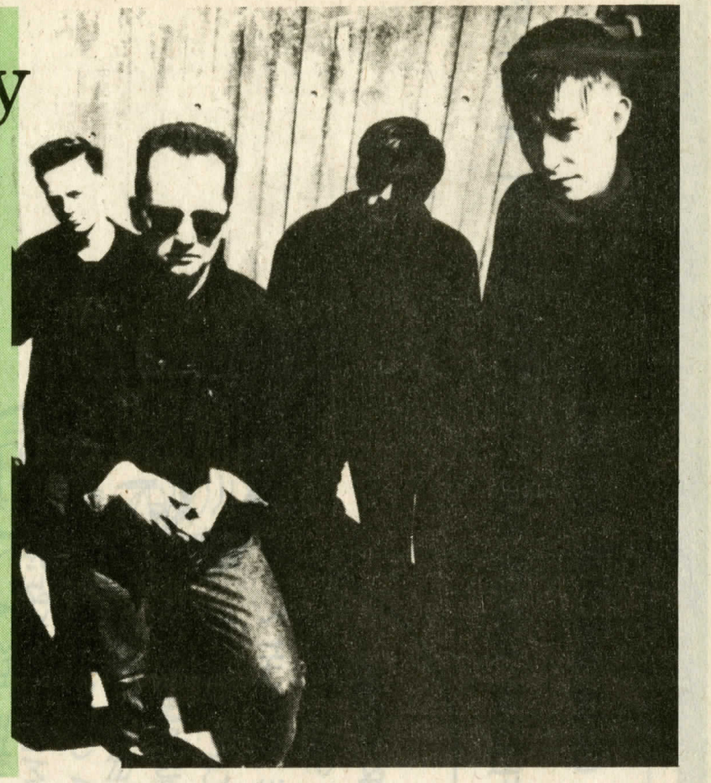
"When Blue Guitar signed u, we couldn't believe it. Then things just blew up," Marsh says with a grin. "There were ten major labels after us. We were fortunate to be in the position where we could sit back, relax and wait for the right deal."

The MLD seem to be handling all this with a cool, collective head.

"We know what we want and we have been able to get it so far," Marsh says with uncharacteristic confidence. "We have total artistic control both here and in England."

That means that they decide what material is released, when it comes out and what it looks like. And, speaking of records, the next *MLD* release is scheduled for March 31. The six-track mini LP will feature two live and four new studio tracks, including their next single, *"Out of Hand."*

They say they will be back before the end of the year for another, more extensive, string of Canadian dates. With *"Happy Head"* already a college radio staple, there will no doubt be more fans waiting for a sweet taste of *The Mighty Lemon Drops*.



Two Galleries

with repeated shapes of arches, arrows, and fish.

The exhibit can be divided into four elements, although Reade designed it as a cohesive whole to be viewed in this precise arrangement. The most exciting of the four groupings is a depiction of Venus. The child-sized recling nude is minimally created from iron piping. Her reflection is carved into a silver mirror; in the reflection, she is drawn full-bodied, a Matisse-like figure. The other three groupings are less decipherable, ore like monoliths. They continue the mixed media experimentation, combining new and aged wood, copper, plaster, and paint.

Reade's work is displayed in the second room of Galerie Skol. The first, L-shaped room is an office and information centre run by Skol's creators, Marie-France Beaudoin and Myriam Merette. There are magazines and announcements about exhibitions, lectures, and other manifestations around the city. The office also contains the most striking piece of work presently on sale in the gallery, an untitled painting by Judith Berry. The canvas is divided into white and black halves, and from the carefully-constructed, early cubist shadows, three horses seem to gallop out of the frame. We can look forward to a Skol exhibition of Berry's compositions later in the year.

Nearer at hand, there are several events taking place at this "Centre

Art, Culture, and Fun

Indies shine at the Spectrum

by Michael Fairney

Strange haircuts, strange clothes and even stranger looking people abounded Saturday night at the Spectrum as Montreal's alternative arts and fashion crowd gathered to witness "Cabaret Futura," the *Montreal Mirror*'s nine and a half hour multi-media extravaganza.

While most of the audience arrived at 9:30 as rock group *Vent du Mont Scharr* took the stage, the festivities actually began at 5:30 with a showing of rarely seen independent films and videos.

The handful of alternative film buffs present for the films, (I counted 15 people), were treated to such indie classics as *Are you there? Are you listening?* by Velcrow Ripper and *4th and Back*, by Concordia student Milton Altwasser, an experimental, neo-psychedelic, semi-far-out, and somewhat groovy film of two hipsters dancing to the Peter Gunn theme (the 50s version). The timidate the next act, Carolyn Boll's *Indelible Inc.* dance company. Which was nice, because the piece they performed from Boll's "Corpus Decorum" was eccentric and beautiful. Unfortunately for late comers, it turned out to be one of the high-points of the seemingly endless show.

Next came a fashion show by *Nucle hair* in which a group of semi-menacing people danced around the stage wearing clothes and hairstyles that made them look like animated abstract paintings. The audience was unimpressed.

Vent du Mont Scharr is a tight guitar, bass, drums and lead singer outfit with a hardcore/rockabilly feel. The lead singer looks and sounds a lot like the lead singer from Doug and the Slugs, which isn't a bad thing in itself. They were very slick but they did little to shake up the lethargic crowd. The dance floor

"funky but sleek" women's evening wear. The clothes were sleek and funky.

Clair Nadon's Spring collection came next, accompanied by three musicians and a tape deck playing some interesting synth pop dance music. The clothes weren't exactly the ultimate in weird, but they were certainly unique. Leather was the material of choice and ripped up was the basic style. Everything was pretty colourful too.

The true highlight of the evening was a showing of *The Lost Remains of Sludge-Billy Monsters From Outer Space* starring Deja Voodoo. The King lives on...

At midnight came Hugh Ball and his band *What it is*. The program described Hugh's music as "sophisti-pop coated in soul." Hugh Ball's singing voice would not be out of place in either *Duran Duran* or *Spandau Ballet* and his lyrics would

Plante, arche et flèche by Cyril Reade (1986)

by Lisa Pasold

Finding Galerie Skol is something of a challenge. The address (3981 St-Laurent) is of an unprepossessing office building. If you look really carefully, you'll find a small sign for the gallery beside the front door. It directs you to suite 222. That involves using the unpredictable elevator, unless you have an uncontrollable urge to walk up two flights of stairs. When you finally get there, though, Skol proves to be worth the trip.

The present exhibition is "Oasis" by Concordia teacher Cyril Reade. According to the artist, the work is an exploration of a common theme in various media. Like his previous efforts, "Oasis" is very symbolic, like a psychadelic cottage quilt. Despite its carnival colours Mcsherry's work is unsettling.

Frederick Mcsherry's exhibition entitled "Views From the Master Plan" is dedicated to his neighbours living in a low income community who ar struggling to save their homes from demolition.

The show continues at the Oboro gallery 3981 St-laurent until March 28. It's well worth a visit.

des Arts Actuels" at the end of the month, including a theatre performance (March 24 and 25), a concert by Les Taches (March 27) and a raffle of artistic works (March 27).

Cyril Reade, "Oasis" until March 22 at Galerie Skol, 381 boul. St-Laurent, suite 222. Open Wednesday to Friday (1 to 6 p.m.), Saturday and Sunday (1 to 5 p.m.). For information, call 842-4021.

Work displayed at Foufounes Ecclectic

by John K. Grande

Who are Les Foufounes Electriques? This group of Montreal artists originated in 1983 with the opening of the bar Foufounes Electrique on Ste.Catherine. This New York style "event" bar has readings, films, art events and in 1983 initiated the painting events with the Foufounes.

Each artist was given a 3' by 4' canvas and a one-hour time limit to create a work. These were subsequently auctioned off to buyers. It proved to be a success and the events continue.

From this venue Les Foufounes have had similar events at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris in 1986 and at a bar called Le Bain Douche also in Paris. They also have had events in Brussels and in New York at a Manhattan disco and at a Pat Hearne's Gallery in the East Village.

Their art ? It is a curious admixture of inspiration and real artistic talent. The forms differ from earlier Quebec movements in that here we have a group of young painters using tachiste, action painting techniques but now to paint readable, representative subjects. Although their work has been called expressionism, it seems as much method as content and is different from New York neo-expressionist work in its emphasis on the method of painting. There is a use of symbols but it is just part of their expression.

Bob Desautels' "La Resurrection de Don Quichotte" uses the method to produce works which have a surreal, mythical feeling. An imaginary figure with arms raised strides in a beach setting with a rooster beside him. It is allegorical, instantaneous, imaginary and reminds one of Salvador Dali in content, and of Paul-Emile Borduas in the actual technique. His work is very accomplished.

Dsky's "Coeur Vert" is an expression of fear, anticipation, love amid a dark painted background. Crudely painted arrows point to a heart in this maelstrom. In "Eros-Robots-Portraits," Jean-Pierre Gagnon uses automatic painted brushstrokes on which are overpainted two portrait heads which are given an impersonal, mechanical appearance. Marie-Claude Bouthillier's "Land Hó" uses impressionistic brushwork and a wide scope with classical decorative repeated forms. One of the most memorable paintings in the exhibit is "Femme Assise" by Alain Pilon. The artist uses cartoon-like animation and a design technique. There is a pop art feel reminiscent of Roy Liechtenstein which seems more synthetic, and emotional.

This showing of 28 canvasses, mostly in acrylic by 28 of Montreal's most event-oriented younger artists is well worth a visit. If you are interested in the current Montreal art scene, Les Foufounes Electriques will give you a sense of where this may be going in the future. Increasingly, exchanges between artists and public and between artists in different countries will be localised, not internationalised. These paintings have themselves been purchased by the Lavalin Gallery to be included in their permanent collection a gesture of public support by a large corporation for the artists of its community. *La Galerie des Arts Lavalin is located in the Lavalin Building at 1100 Dorchester Ave. West.*

term "cool" continuously came to mind.

The highlight of the film fest was definitely Newfoundlander Mike Jones' film *Sisters of the Silver Scalpel*. The film was a take-off of Wild Kingdom in which a husband and wife team of wilderness enthusiasts goes off in search of an obscure group of wild nuns thought to exist deep in the heart of darkest Newfoundland. Cruel humour at its best, especially when they strapped the captured nun to the hood of their Volkswagen.

By eight, the audience had grown to 45 (must have been word of mouth) and the Spectrum was hopping-like a crippled penguin. Still, lack of a real audience didn't in-

By this time the Spectrum was pretty well full, though perhapsmost of the original 15 had gone out to catch the new Michael J. Fox film. The rest of us were left to deal with M.C.'s Sean Kean and "Rotwang," whose attempts at humour could have appealed to only the densest of accountants, or the closest of their friends.

Vent du Mont Scharr was followed by dance from *Carolyn-Fe Trinidad* and *PHI-X174*, and once again the audience's attention was focused on the stage rather than on their beer glasses. The two women danced an erotic and violent duet that had the crowd spellbound.

Jared International then displayed their latest collection of Family material. He's the type of guy, on stage anyway, that Elvis Costello would refer to as a clown. He too failed to get anybody dancing. By the end of the set, the Spectrum was half empty.

The Cabaret Futura cannot be described as having been a smash success, in commercial or critical terms. However, the organisers should be applauded for creating a forum for Montreal's alternative arts scene, especially in these days of franchise radio and top 40 film. The respectable turnout should bring to the attention of Montreal media barons that there are artists out there besides those that are nationally syndicated.

Which is a good thing.

Frantic assault leaves crowd helplessly laughing

by Brendan Cahill

The Frantics have it down from A to Z. That's amusing to zany. The four-member comedy troupe from Toronto recently came to town as part of their cross Canada tour, and left the crowd at the Club Soda busting a gut last Thursday. Ever laugh so hard you feel your ribs will collapse? That's how funny these guys are.

The Thursday night show featured two sets, both well-timed and professionally paced. These are veterans, having worked in some manner of showbiz for the better part of a decade. They are slick, fast on their feet, and ready for prime-time American network television. They had their own show on CBC-TV called "Four on the Floor," and had a radio show on CBC that ran over two years. As well, they've done their apprenticeship in every two bit dive in the Southern Ontario circuit.

And the sketches. "Every episode of Star Trek ever made in three and a half minutes" including the expendable crew member; a mild-mannered accountant who becomes The Mole King and rules the underground; and a bit where Saint Peter turns back every one at the pearly gats who isn't a Presbyterian. "Sorry, God is fickle. He put the Baptists in purgatory, he likes to get their hopes up."

There were a couple of poem readings, a crime of passion with no dialogue but lots of kazoos, and a couple of musical numbers, including a blues song called "Ya Need Me," sung by a rubbie to a beautiful women. There were even a couple of sketches where members of the audience were called forward and mildly ridiculed.

The actors play different characters, so there's a fair bit of typecasting, but it's more the players utilising their talents rather than being restricted by their limitations. The only flawperhaps is the superfluous last line in a few sketches that takeaway the full impact of the punch line. Other than that these guysare good. And funny. Get Frantic soon.

The Frantics will have a new album out "Boot To The Head" and can be seen on HBO

Joke's alive, crew cuts it

by Scott Powter

Killing Joke
Brighter Than a Thousand Suns
Virgin Records

Nw this is a far cry from *"Whats This for..."* and it's probably not as good, but nobody wants to sound the same today as they did six years ago. The band claims that the punk image is gone, that they've shaken off the sins of the past. Well, I'm not here as a judge of integrity, I will say that musically this record is rather agreeable in a vague, idle kind of way. Slick production and sparse instrumentation provide a sufficiently ambient backdrop for Jaz Coleman's obscure and apocalyptic vision. Coleman himself says of this release, "if people don't like it, it doesn't bother me..." and I like that.

***

The Cutting Crew
Broadcast
Virgin Records

And so it was made, an offering unto Moses. Moses Znaimer that is. If this chintzy product isn't tailor made for MuchMusic than I truly don't know what is. While I wipe the tears from my eyes and clear the vomit off my turntable, let me tell you that this record is one tiny whimpering, blubbering, sugar-coated Yuppie panacea; you know, the kind that instantly goes gold. Fills me with hate personally, but I guess it was all worth it in the end when I granted myself the privilege of watching it shatter against the wall, and it does shatter quite well.

1/2*

Link's Art Culture & Fun Record Rating Chart.

***** Excellent disc; listen till the grooves grow old.
**** Good record; wise investment in vinyl.
*** Fair, put on from time to time, up to you.
** Poor: acquired taste, I guess.
* Lousy; can be extra place at table with plastic knife and fork.

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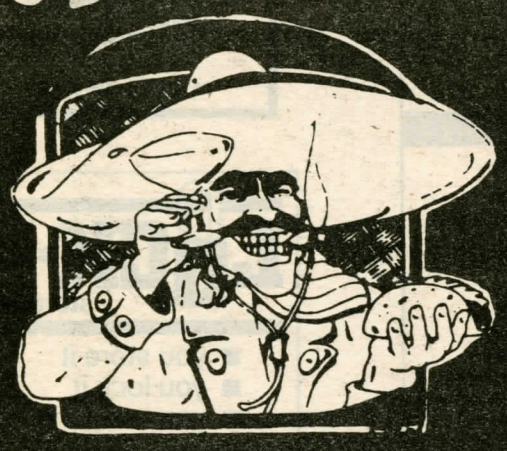

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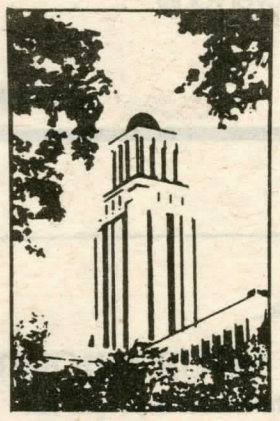

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Sports

THE BASKETBALL FINALS

by Jim McRae

Brandon's smooth road to the crown

by Jim McRae

When the Brandon Bobcats dumped the British Columbia Thunderbirds 74-66 Saturday, journalists sat and pondered adjectives to describe the new national champs.

Smooth, adj: polished and agreeable in manner.

The Bobcats were smooth in winning the Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union (CIAU) title. Theirs was a polished act which was mutually agreeable for those on hand.

In their three-game tournament, Brandon's game plan seemed to be score fast and coast and then score when they had to. They dominated.

"I didn't have any doubt in my mind that we were going to win the title," said tournament MVP John Carson. "This is what we worked all year for."

Carson, a five time All-Canadian, saved his best performance of his career for the last and biggest game of his career. He scored 38 points and fulfilled a personal committment he had made.

"I dedicated this to my grandfather who passed away three weeks ago in North Carolina. He was in my mind for the whole game and the win is for him."

Of the 38, four came on slams that brought roars from the 6,000 people in the Metro Centre, the other 34 came from everywhere else on the floor.

It was the first time in eight years that a team other than the Victoria Vikings has won the CIAU title. The Vikings failed even to get a wild card berth.

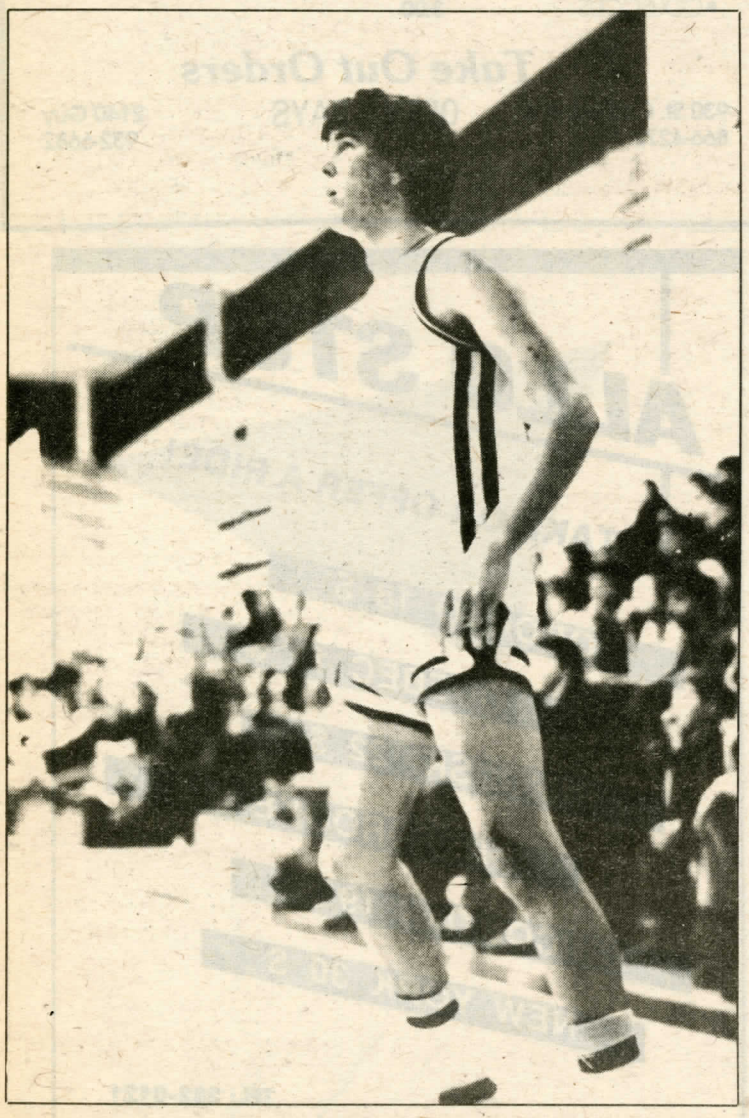
Brandon has been on probation the past two seasons for CIAU rule violations and wasn't allowed to take part in the national final.

"Our school was on probation because of the men's hockey and women's basketball programmes. It was a shame too because during that time I felt that we had a team that was the best in the country," said Bobcats' head coach Jerry Hemmings.

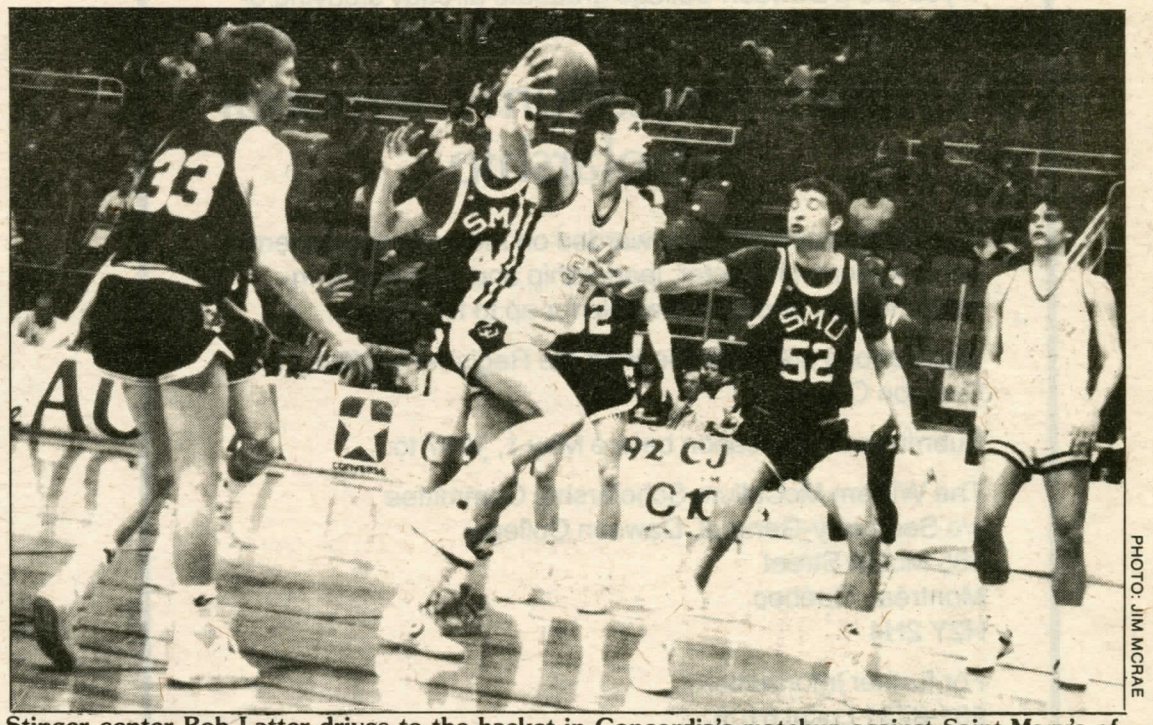
It would be a pretty safe bet to pencil in Brandon for next year's final tournament but don't include the coach, or so he says.

"I've been at Brandon for 13 years and I feel that I may start thinking about giving up coaching and dedicating more time to my family," said Hemmings. "It's a good way to go out."

It's also a smooth way to go out.



Concordia guard Craig Norman scored 28 against SMU and was named on the tournament's second team all-Canadian selection



Stinger center Rob Latter drives to the basket in Concordia's matchup against Saint-Mary's of Halifax in the consolation round. SMU won the game 85-82 to gain access to the consolation final against Western

PHOTO: JIM McRAE

Stingers flunk out first round

It was the bad luck of the draw that kept the Concordia Stingers from moving past the first round in the hunt for the national championship.

Of the eight teams in the tournament the Stingers were ranked last which meant that their first game was against the number one-ranked Brandon Bobcats.

Brandon is a team with depth. They can beat you with their five starters or their bench if they have to. They rolled over Concordia 87-70.

Third year guard Parnell Joseph summed up the team's feelings on the tough draw it received.

"Playing Brandon right off the bat was a blow. We feel that we should have been ranked third or fourth, this way we would have had a chance to see them play and know what to expect," he said.

What the Stingers were told to expect was a team of runners, jumpers and shooters... and that's exactly what they got. They battled the Bobcats up until the nine minute mark of the second half but then a one point deficit was stretched and the game fell out of reach.

"We would have played them better in the final or the semi-final than we did in the opening game. They have weaknesses but they hide them well, we would have picked them up if we had a chance to watch them play first," Joseph said.

As was the format of the tournament, the first round losers had no chance of advancing to the final. Concordia was matched against St. Mary's of Halifax for the consolation qualifying game. For the most part, a lack of motivation explained their dropping a 85-82 decision. They trailed by as much as 16 points until deciding it was time to play. They really weren't beaten but just ran out of time.

For coach Doug Daigneault, thoughts of the opening game still filled his mind.

"Brandon is ten points better than any other team in the tournament but I felt that we could have beaten them if we would have gotten a little more from another starter."

Rob Latter led the Stingers in scoring with 27 against the Bobcats and was voted player of the game. Against SMU, Norman was given the honour for his game high 28 points.

Thursday March 12

Brandon (# 1) beats Concordia (# 8), 87-70
B.C. (# 2) beats Western (# 7), 93-76
Winnipeg (# 3) beats Toronto (# 6), 80-78
McMaster (# 4) beats Saint Mary's (# 5), 74-71

Friday March 13

Brandon (# 1) beats McMaster (# 4), 85-77
B.C. (# 2) beats Winnipeg (# 3), 106-90
Saint Mary's (# 5) beats Concordia (# 8), 85-82
Western (# 7) beats Toronto (# 6), 74-63

Saturday March 14

Consolation final:
Western (# 7) beats Saint Mary's (# 5), 73-72

Final:
Brandon (# 1) beats B.C. (# 2), 74-66

Rebels without a cause

"The Tray Gang," otherwise known as "the Concordia Girls," went to Halifax and made their mark.

Travelling 14 hours in the CON-U MOBILE (car), the small group went east to cheer on their Stingers.

"We go to the games to propel the team. People liked us and recognised us," explained one member. "We were sitting in a restaurant and a TV reporter came in and asked us if we were the 'Concordia Girls'."

The only problem that they encountered during their Maritime odyssy was a wrong turn at Amherst.

"We took the back roads for a short cut and ended up being lost for two hours," explained the navigator.

They definitely knew their way around Halifax however, as most of its residents would probably tell you.

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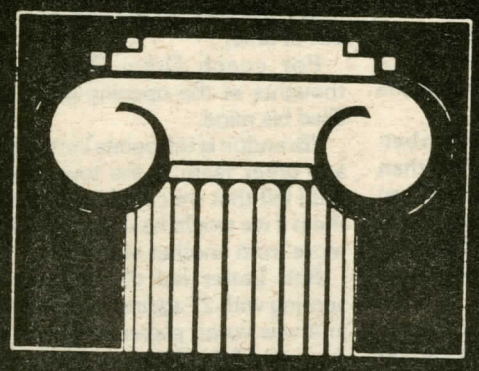

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Con U coach to head national team

by Andy Dahl

The honours just never stop pouring in. A week after the Concordia wrestling team won its fourth straight national title, coach Victor Zilberman was selected to coach the 1988 Canadian Olympic team.

Zilberman, 39, was one of two people being considered for the job.

"It's an honour to have been selected," he said. "It'll be a considerable amount of work putting the team together."

One thing the former Soviet champ has going in his favour is a squad of experienced world class wrestlers right under his wing. Several of Concordia's wrestlers will be vying for a spot on the team. Among them are Clark Davis and Lawrence Holmes, both of whom were on hand at the 1984 games in Los Angeles.

"I'll be looking mostly at those who are (internationally) experienced," said Zilberman.

Besides dealing with his own team, Zilberman will be faced with the task of scouting all the top teams in the country to find the wrestlers whom he believes will best represent Canada in next summer's Games in Seoul.

Some of those *experienced* wrestlers he refers to include Chris Rinke of British Columbia, a bronze medalist at the 84 Games, as well as Gary Holmes (Lawrence's brother) who placed second at the World Espoir championships in 1985.

"My priority now is to develop a game plan over the next 18 months," said Zilberman, who himself placed third in the 1974 World championships. "We have to get the top two wrestlers in each weight class and concentrate on them."

Although it will be up to Zilberman to decide who will compete in each spot available on the final roster, it will be up to the wrestlers themselves to earn the spots. This will be decided through a selection tournament which Zilberman will organise.

"(The tournament) will be held sometime in April or May," he said. "This'll give us a few months to work with the team."

Zilberman hopes to set the training grounds in Montreal, though he realises that with the probable influx of wrestlers coming from B.C., he will have to set up an alternate camp in Vancouver from where he will travel back and forth

Quite a bit of work for a man who not only coaches the Concordia team but also has a full-time position at Vanier and a family to tend to. Unfortunately, however, the Olympic post in no way stands as a means for survival.

"I tried to convince the people who selected me that this should be a full-time position but they didn't want to hear it," said Zilberman. "Over the past three years, Sport Canada has put in over one million dollars into the wrestling association for travelling and training facilities etc... It would seem logical to hire a coach who could devote all his time towards developing the team. But that doesn't seem to be the case."

Nevertheless, full-time or not, the committee responsible for selecting Zilberman made a fine choice in ensuring the fact that Canada will be well represented upon next year's Olympic mat. Just ask members of the Concordia team who just won their fourth straight varsity title—a feat unprecedented in the history of Canadian wrestling.

• • •

The Montreal Wrestling Club, of which the Concordia team is a strong part of, returned from Burnaby, B.C. this past weekend with two gold medals in the Canadian Espoir freestyle championships.

The two winners were 18 year old heavyweight Andy Borodow, a Centennial High School student, and Neil Spelrum, who won a bronze medal in the CIAU championship tournament held two weeks ago at Loyola. The two will represent Canada at the World Espoir championships in August. Wrestlers from over 30 nations will assemble for that tournament which will also be held in B.C.

Concordia Intramural Broomball League
All-star selections 1987

Arsencheck division

Goaltenders:	Ray Kirkwood	Global Concern
	Frank Ciccarello	Dark Horses
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	Yolande Benoît	Dark Horses
	Angela Berlin	Venae Commitantes
Men:	Randy Hansen	Leftovers
	Brent Jones	Leftovers
	Kevin Laferiere	Global Concern
	Marco Butlazoni	Dark Horses
	Rob Baird	Electric Sheep
	Doug Scullion	V. Commitantes
	Tom Iatrou	Electric Sheep
	Andre Russo	V. Commitante
Captain:	Andrew Shaw	Leftovers

Corsi division

Goaltenders:	Brian Shore	I.R.A
	Brian Keech	Civil Sweepers
Women:	Angela Stevens	Lachine Machine
	Carol Belanger	Lachine Machine
	Leanne Murray	Hingston Heads
	Caroyn Weir	Sleepless Knights
Men:	Bruce Wallace	Lachine Machine
	Keith Mills	Lachine Machine
	George Massey	Civil Sweepers
	Francis Tourneur	Civil Sweepers
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	John Wyman	Civil Sweepers
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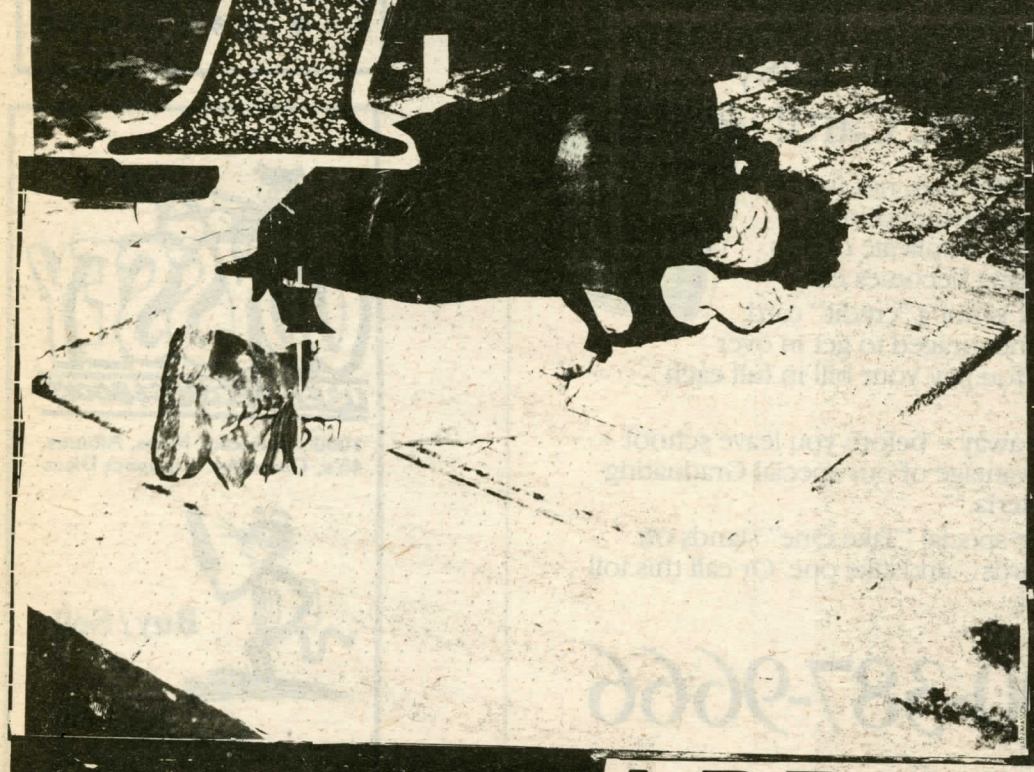

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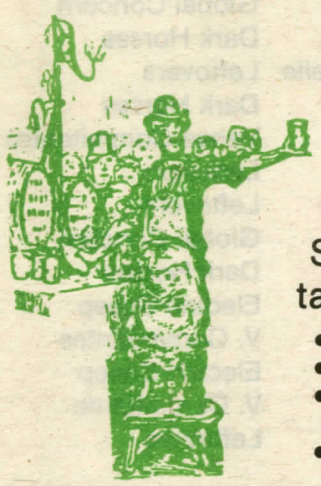

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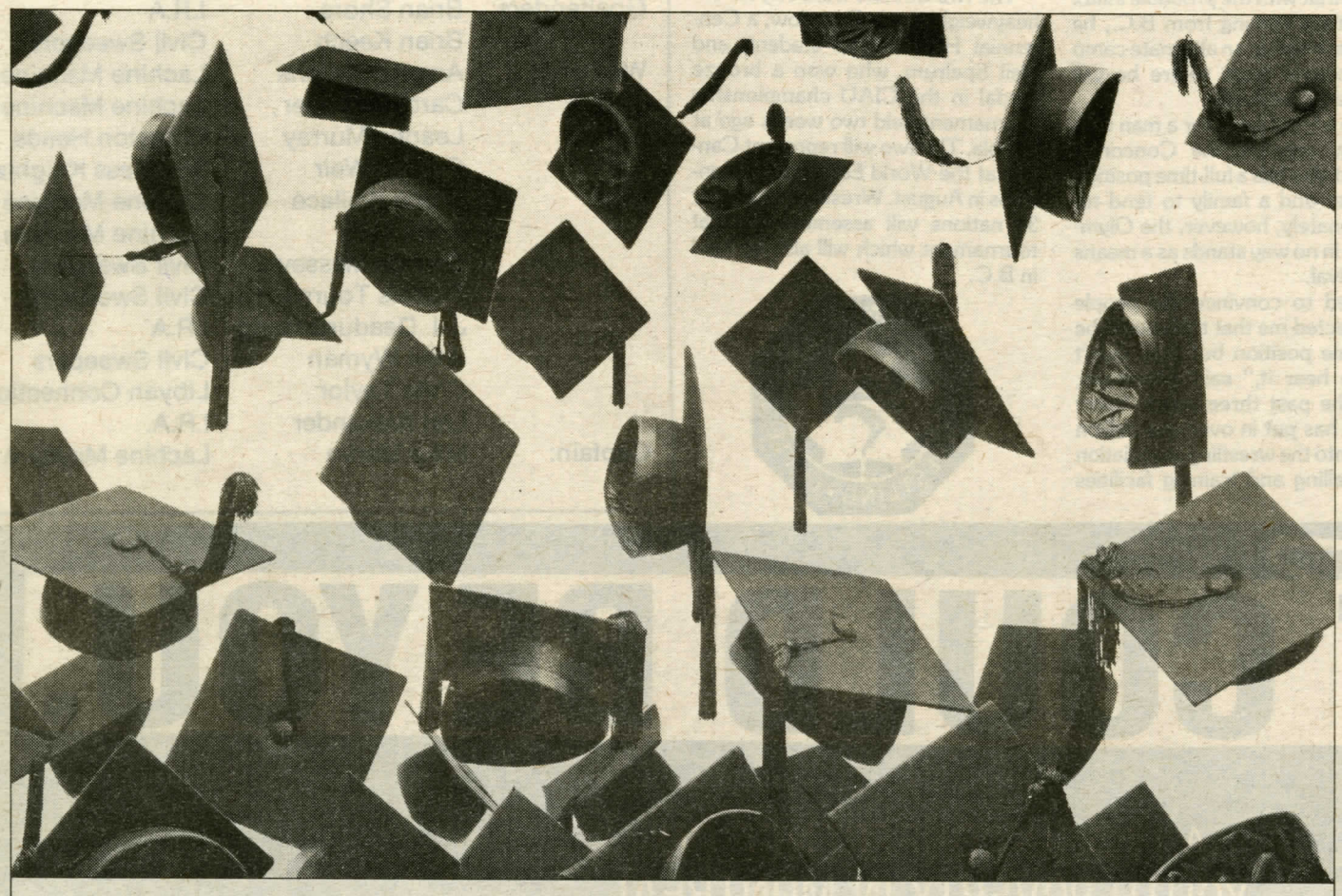

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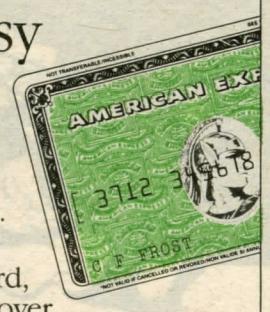

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